

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Serial No. 10/046,882
Attorney Docket No. 020044

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1, 8, 15, and 19 are amended. Claims 21-24 are added. No new subject matter is added. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated September 20, 2005.

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Melo et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,431,772) in view of *Smith et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,502,191). To expedite prosecution and further clarify the claimed invention, Applicants amend claims 1, 8, 15, and 19. Thus, in view of these amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the §103(a) rejections of these claims.

When evaluating a claim for determining obviousness, all limitations of the claim must be evaluated. Here, even if one were to combine the cited references, the combination would not result in an Internet printing method comprising *converting a protocol*. [Claims 1, 8, 15, and 19]. In *Smith et al.*, for example, data is converted; whereas, in the present invention, protocol is converted. Therefore, the conversion target of the present invention is distinct from that of *Smith et al.* Accordingly, the combination of *Melo et al.* and *Smith et al.* does not render amended claims of the above-identified application *prima facie* obvious.

Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 17, and 19 depend from independent claims 1, 8, and 15. Accordingly, these claims should likewise be allowable in view of the above remarks by nature of dependency.

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Claims 21-24 are new and depend from independent claims 1, 15 and 19. Accordingly, these claims should likewise be allowable in view of the above remarks by nature of dependency.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment that claims 4, 11, 18, and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, Applicants believe that these claims are allowable in view of the above remarks.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicant submits that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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